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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
Washington 25, D.C.

SM-9895
5 April 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING
COMMITTEE:

Subject: Psychological Warfare.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have considered SWNCC 304/6, forwarded to them by your memorandum SANA-5886 of 9 January 1948. It is the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that from the military point of view:

a. The national security will be adversely affected if a working nucleus for the planning and coordination of psychological warfare is not brought into existence prior to war (or threat of war as determined by the President);

b. The effect of the recommendations in SWNCC 304/6, as approved by the State-Army-Navy-Air Force Coordinating Committee, would be to postpone, to a dangerously late date, the establishment of a psychological warfare organization; and,

c. There should be established, as soon as practicable, under the National Security Council, a Psychological Warfare Organization, but with its peacetime scope and activities limited to that of a working nucleus for planning and coordination.

Accordingly, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend that the pertinent Conclusions and Recommendations of SWNCC 304/6 be amended in the light of the above comments.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

W. G. LALOR,
Captain, U.S. Navy,
Secretary.

SANACC 304/14

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Enclosure

SECRET

S E C R E TA P P E N D I XD R A F T

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL:

Subject: Psychological Warfare.

Forwarded for the consideration of the National Security Council are the views (SANACC 304/14) of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on SWNCC 304/6 which are concurred in by the SANACC:

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff have considered SWNCC 304/6 and it is the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that from the military point of view:

a. The national security will be adversely affected if a working nucleus for the planning and coordination of psychological warfare is not brought into existence prior to war (or threat of war as determined by the President);

b. The effect of the recommendations in SWNCC 304/6, as approved by the State-Army-Navy-Air Force Coordinating Committee, would be to postpone, to a dangerously late date, the establishment of a psychological warfare organization; and,

c. There should be established, as soon as practicable, under the National Security Council, a Psychological Warfare Organization, but with its peacetime scope and activities limited to that of a working nucleus for planning and coordination.

Accordingly, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend that the pertinent Conclusions and Recommendations of SWNCC 304/6 be amended in the light of the above comments."

In this connection there is enclosed a copy of SWNCC 304/6 approved by SANACC prior to receipt of the JCS views referred to above. Also enclosed for the information of the Council is a copy of SANACC 304/12, approved by the Committee as a possible basis for further planning.

SANACC 304/14

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(Revised 12 April 1948)

Appendix